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[54] **TAPING TOOL**  
**4 Claims, 8 Drawing Figs.**

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[50] Field of Search ..... **156/577,**  
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**ABSTRACT:** A device and method of using the same to apply tape of a desired length to a generally flat surface, said tape prior to application being spiral wound on a reel, and the exposed surface of the bonding material on the tape, commonly referred to as mud in the trade, covered with a thin, pliable, reusable film of a plastic material that lightly adheres thereto. The film serves the dual function of preventing the bonding material from drying prior to application of the tape to said surface, and the spiral wound layers of the tape from adhering to one another. In addition, an apparatus is disclosed for forming the tape, as well as a protective package in which it may be retailed.

